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said to Isaac, My son, it is you that I am going to sacrifice unto the Lord, for so



he has commanded me. I willingly consent, said Isaac; it is from God that I received my life, and I ought to return it him since it his pleasure. Then Abraham piled up the wood, bound his son Isaac, put him on the wood, and took a great knife in his hand to cut off his head; but an angel of the Lord came and stopped his arm,

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arm, and said to him, Do not kill Isaac. God only wanted to know whether you would both obey him. Then Abraham unbound Isaac, and, looking up, he saw a ram caught in a thicket by his horns; and Abraham took the ram, and offered him for a burnt-offering, instead of his son, and then they returned with satisfaction to their tent.

*Miss Harriot.* I was very much afraid, Mademoiselle, for poor Isaac; I thought he was going to be killed.

*Miss Julia.* But, Mademoiselle, it is a wicked thing to kill a man. How came God to command a wicked action?

*Mademoiselle.* It is not always a wicked action to kill a man, my dear. You know, that a great many are killed for being thieves and robbers. When people are at war, the soldiers kill their enemies without committing a sin. Besides, you see that God did not intend Isaac should be killed; and Abraham, who knew that God was just and wise, said within himself, since God has commanded me to do it, there can